1	2	3
8.	Regional Engineering Colleges	Overseas Development Agency, U.K.
9.	Intergrated Child Development Scheme.	World Bank
10.	Assistance to 47 ICDS Projects in Tamil Nadu	Govt. of Sweden

Sunderban As National River Path

2791. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are going to recognise the river path of Sunderban as National river path; and

(b) if so, the details thereof the the necessary steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The International Steamer route in the Sunderbans between India and Bangladesh has been identified by the National Transport Policy Committee (1980) for declaration as a National Waterway. The approximate route length of this stretch from Rangfala Channel to the Baharikhal-Raimangal river confluence is 200 Kms. An Environmental Impact Assessment and preparation of an Environmental Management Plan are in Progress. After the studies are completed, necessary steps to declare this stretch as National Waterway will be taken.

Mortality Rate of Girls

2792. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether mortality rate among girls is increasing relatively to boys of the similar age;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per information available through Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India there has been a declining trend in infact (O-1 years) and child (0-4 Years) mortality rates over the years. While there was a marginal increase in the child (0-4 years) mortality rate for girls in 1992 has compared to 1991 there has been a considerable decline in this rate for girls in 1993.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

New Bridges on N.Hs. in West Bengal

2793. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the details of the proposals for construction of new bridges on National Highways in West Bengal pending with the Government for approval for the last three years; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : (a) No such proposals are pending with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Vessels by Kuwaiti Authorities

2794. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Registered Sailing Vessels that were impounded in the months of April-May 1996 by Kuwaiti Authorities;

(b) whether crew members of the detained Indian vessels were released, but their vessels were offered for auction; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to get these vessels released?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No such impounding has been reported by Embassy of India. Kuwait during April-May 1996.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Court Martialling Cases in Armed Forces

2795. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of court-martialling cases occurred in the Armed Forces during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the system of court martialling is grossly one-sided and denying natural justice to the accused; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to rectify the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a)

Year	Number of Court Martial cases occurred in the Armed Forces
1993	1856
1994	1671
1995	1486

(b) and (c). Under the Army/Navy/Air Force Acts a very fair system for dispensation of justice has been